

## NOTES ON CONTRIBUTORS

**FEDERICO ADLER** was born in Austria and emigrated to Ecuador in 1939. He moved to Kansas City in 1955 to practice orthopedic surgery and now is a clinical professor of orthopedic surgery at the University of Kansas.

**DAVID AXELROD's** most recent collection of poems, *The Cartographer's Melancholy* (Eastern Washington UP), won the Spokane Prize, and was a finalist for the 2006 Oregon Book Award. He is the author of two other collections of poems and a collection of nonfiction, *Troubled Intimacies: A Life in the Interior West* (Oregon State UP, 2004), and is also associate editor of *basalt: a journal of fine & literary arts*.

**CONGER BEASLEY JR.'s** latest book, *Messiah: The Life and Times of Francis Schlatter*, will be published in 2008 by Sunstone Press. He has six photo/text collaborations, most recently *Kangchenjunga: Guardian of the Eastern Himalaya* (Tim Hauf Photography, 2006), and won the Western Writers of America Spur Awards for *We Are a People of This World: The Lakota Sioux and the Massacre at Wounded Knee* (U of Arkansas P, 1995). (A *New Letters on the Air* author).

**RALPH BERETS** was born in Amersfoort, The Netherlands, in 1939. He went into hiding in 1942 and moved to the United States after the war, when he was 12. He earned a Ph.D. in comparative literature from the University of Michigan in 1969 and taught English and film studies at the University of Missouri-Kansas City for 32 years. He has retired to teaching part time, evaluating films, lecturing on the holocaust and living in California.

**KRISTIN BERGER's** collection of poems *For the Willing* will be available from Finishing Line Press in spring of 2008. She lives in Portland, Ore., with her husband, daughter, and son.

**EVELYN BERGL** was born in Vienna, Austria. In 1939, she moved with her mother and older brother to Milan, Italy, where her father was waiting. The family stayed in Italy until 1947, when they moved to the United States.

**CATHERINE BROWDER's** books include the story collection *Secret Lives* (Southern Methodist UP, 2003) and *The Clay That Breathes: A Novella and Stories* (Milkweed Editions, 1991). She has received

fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Missouri Arts Council. She lives in Kansas City, Mo.

**ROBERT OLEN BUTLER** is the author of 10 novels and four collections of stories. He was awarded the 1993 Pulitzer Prize for his collection *A Good Scent from a Strange Mountain*. His stories have appeared in *The New Yorker*, *The Paris Review*, *Esquire*, and *The Best American Short Stories*, among many others. He teaches at Florida State University, where he is a distinguished Frances Eppes Professor. (A *New Letters on the Air* author.)

**ILSA COLE** was born in Hamm, Germany, in 1916. She left Germany in 1938 for the United States and now lives in Overland Park, Kan.

**GARY DOP**'s poems have appeared recently or are forthcoming in a number of literary journals. He received his M.F.A. from the University of Nebraska, and now teaches creative writing at North Central University in Minneapolis, where he also directs the Taproot Reading Series.

**CAROL DURAK** owns a book-restoration business and works part time at the Bowdoin College Library in Brunswick, Maine.

**NATHAN ENGLANDER**'s short fiction has been reprinted in *The Best American Short Stories*, *The O. Henry Prize Stories*, and the *Pushcart Prize: Best of the Small Presses* anthology. His book of short stories *For the Relief of Unbearable Urges* (Knopf, 1999) won the PEN/Faulkner Malamud Award and the Sue Kaufman Prize for First Fiction from the American Academy of Arts and Letters. *The New Yorker* named him among its "20 Writers for the 21st Century." He lives in New York City. See page 32 for more details.

**ALICE FRIMAN**'s latest collection of poems, *The Book of the Rotten Daughter*, appeared from BkMk Press in 2006; her book *Zoo* (U of Arkansas P, 1999) won the Ezra Pound Poetry Award from Truman State University and the Sheila Motton Prize from the New England Poetry Club. She lives in Milledgeville, Ga., where she is poet-in-residence at Georgia College & State University. (A *New Letters on the Air* author.)

**INGE GENEFKE** trained and practiced as a neurologist and has been active in the field of international humanitarian action for nearly 40 years. She is founder of Copenhagen's Center for Research and Rehabilitation of Torture Victims (RTC) and the International Council

for Rehabilitation of Torture Victims (IRCT). See page 67 for more details.

**IRMA GIANNETTI** grew up in Kolozsvár (the Transylvanian city of Cluj-Napoca, to Romanians), speaking Hungarian and Romanian. Her co-translations with Adam J. Sorkin have appeared widely in literary magazines, as well as in two of his anthologies.

**ROBERT GIBB's** books include *World over Water* (2007) and *The Burning World* (2004), both by the University of Arkansas Press, and *The Origins of Evening* (Norton, 1997), which was a National Poetry Series winner. He lives in Homestead, Pa.

**MARY CROCKETT HILL** is the author of the award-winning book of poems *If You Return Home With Food* (Bluestem P, 1999), and co-author of the history *A Town by the Name of Salem*. Her poetry has been featured in *American Poetry: The Next Generation* and on *Poetry Daily* Web site. She teaches writing at Roanoke College.

**MARK IRWIN** is the author of five collections of poetry, including *Bright Hunger* and *White City* (BOA Editions, 2004 and 2000), and he has translated two volumes of poetry. He has received *The Nation/Discovery* Award, a Pushcart Prize, National Endowment for the Arts and Ohio Arts Council Fellowships, and a Fulbright Fellowship to Romania. He lives in Englewood, Colo.

**JUDY JACOBS** was born in Budapest, Hungary, in 1937. She was incarcerated with her parents in Bergen-Belsen concentration camp in 1944, and she came to the United States in 1946, where she earned her B.A. at the University of Michigan and her M.B.A. and Ph.D. in higher educational administration at the University of Missouri-Kansas City. She lives in Overland Park, Kan.

**THOMAS E. KENNEDY** is the author of many books, most recently the four novels of *The Copenhagen Quartet*, including *Greene's Summer* (2004), about a Chilean torture survivor being rehabilitated in Copenhagen. Kennedy has participated in the drafting of numerous international ethical declarations against torture, and was managing editor of *Danish Medical Bulletin* from 1976 to 1993. He also has been a translator and language-editor for the Research Center for Torture Victims and the International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims. He lives in Denmark. (*A New Letters on the Air* author.)

**THOMAS LARSEN** has written and co-written political biographies of the former and current Danish prime ministers Poul Schluter and Anders Fogh Rasmussen, and of other foreign and Danish political party leaders. He is an editor and political commentator with *Berlingske Tidende*, one of Denmark's most respected daily newspapers (and one of the oldest in the world, founded in 1749), and often appears on television and radio as a political analyst for Danish and international media. He also is the author of *Life Is Not For Beginners*, a book on Danish actress Malene Schwartz. In 1995, he received a Marshall Memorial Fellowship and, in 1999-2000, he was John S. Knight Fellow at Stanford University. He teaches politics and journalism at the Danish School of Journalism.

**THOMAS LARSON** is the author of *The Memoir and the Memoirist: Reading and Writing Personal Narrative* (Ohio UP / Swallow P, 2007). Since 1999, he has been a contributing writer for the *San Diego Reader*, where he specializes in investigative journalism, profiles, and narrative nonfiction.

**EUGENE LEBOVITZ**, his parents, Shifra and Abraham, and his older sister and brother lived in a two-bedroom house attached to his father's custom tailor shop in Berehovo, Czechoslovakia (now Ukraine). He married his wife, Kathy, in the Budapest ghetto before being deported to Mauthausen. After liberation, they were smuggled into Italy and eventually made their way to the United States, settling first in New York and then in Kansas City, Mo.

**RUSTY LEFFEL**'s medium is street photography. He exhibits through national juried competitions and invitational shows and art fairs, and, in 2007, he was awarded "Best in Show" at the 16th-annual Juried Show at the Art Center of Northern New Jersey in New Milford, and First Place in photography at the 79th-annual International Juried Exhibition of the Art Association of Harrisburg, Pa. He lives in Mission Hills, Kan.

**BONNIE LYONS** has published many interviews with fiction writers and playwrights, a book about Henry Roth, three books of poetry, and many articles, especially about Jewish American literature. She lives in San Antonio, Texas.

**SAM PICKERING** has written 21 books, most recently *Edinburgh Days, or Doing What I Want to Do* (U of South Carolina P, 2007), an account of half a year spent in Scotland, and *Autumn Spring* (U

of Tennessee P, 2007), a collection of personal essays. He teaches English at the University of Connecticut.

**JUDY RAY**'s most recent chapbooks of poetry are *Sleeping in the Larder: Poems of a Sussex Childhood* (Van Zora P, 2005) and *Fishing in Green Waters* (Cervena Barva P, 2006). She lives in Tucson, Ariz.

**TRISH REEVES'** first book of poems, *Returning the Question*, received the Cleveland State University Prize. Her book of poems *In the Knees of the Gods* was published by BkMk Press in 2001. She has received fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts, Yaddo, and the Kansas Arts Commission, and she was a Keck Fellow at Sarah Lawrence College. She teaches English and writing at Haskell Indian Nations University in Lawrence, Kan. (*A New Letters on the Air* author.)

**EDIE RHOADS** was a finalist for the *New Letters* Poetry Award in 2007. She lives in Burlington, Vt., where she is learning to teleski.

**SIEGFRIED RUSCHIN** was born in Germany in 1925. He emigrated with his parents to Venezuela in 1939 and to the United States in 1956. He earned a B.A. at Washburn College and an M.S.L.S. from Emporia State University. He worked from 1956 to '59 at the Topeka Public Library and retired from the Linda Hall Library of Kansas City in July 1993.

**JANSET BERKOK SHAMI** is a Turkish writer of Circassian origin. She is the author of the novel *Cages on Opposite Shores* (Interlink Publishing, 1995) and many short stories. Her story "Wheels on the Cardo" (2006) won the *Naussau Review* award, and "Sophia and Superman" appears in *Best New Writing 2007* (Hopewell). After studying English literature at Ankara University and Queen Mary College of London, she married a Jordanian doctor, and they live in Amman, Jordan.

**ADAM J. SORKIN**'s recent books of translation include Radu Andriescu's *The Catalan Within* (Longleaf Press, 2007), Magda Carneci's *Chaosmos* (White Pine P, 2006), and Mariana Marin's *Paper Children* (Ugly Duckling Presse, 2006). In 2008, Ruxandra Cesereanu's *Crusader-Woman* will appear from Black Widow Press, and Carmen Firan's *Inhabited Words* from Sheep Meadow Press.

**RICHARD TERRILL**'s collection of poems *Coming Late to Rachmaninoff* (U of Tampa P, 2003), won the Minnesota Book Award. His essays have appeared previously in *New Letters*, and his poems and translations have appeared in many other literary journals. He teaches creative nonfiction and poetry at Minnesota State University, Mankato.

**WILLIAM TROWBRIDGE's** poetry collections include *Flickers* (2001), *O Paradise* (1995), and *Enter Dark Stranger* (1989), all from the University of Arkansas Press, and *The Complete Book of Kong* (Southeast Missouri State UP, 2003). He lives in Kansas City and teaches in the University of Nebraska low-residency M.F.A. program.

**FLOAREA ȚUȚUIANU** graduated from the Nicolae Grigorescu Institute of the Fine Arts in Bucharest and is now a member of both the Romanian Artists' Union and Writers' Union. Her books of poetry include *The Fish Woman* (1996), *Libresse oblige* (1998), *The Lion Mark* (2000), and a collected volume with new poems *The Art of Seduction* (2002). She works as a graphic designer at the Romanian Cultural Institute Publishing House in Bucharest.

**PHU VAN NGUYEN** was a government employee in South Vietnam until 1975, when the North Vietnamese communists took control of the South. He was put into a re-education camp for 13 years. In 1993, he came, as a refugee, to resettle in Kansas City, Mo.

**REBECCA NORRIS WEBB**, originally a poet and journalist, had her first New York City solo exhibition at Ricco Maresca Gallery in 2006, the same year her first book, *The Glass Between Us*, was published. Her photographs have been included in several group exhibitions, including "Why Look at Animals?" at the George Eastman House Museum of Photography. Her project was awarded sponsorship by the Blue Earth Alliance. Currently, she's working on a series of photographs in her home state called "My Dakota," and a series in Cuba called "Fauna Cubana." She edited the two most recent photography books (*Crossings* and *Istanbul*) of her husband and creative partner, Alex Webb, and teaches photography workshops with him around the world.

**PETER WOLFE** has written 20 books, most recently *Havoc in the Hub: A Reading of George V. Higgins* (Lexington Books, 2007). He is a frequent book reviewer for *The St. Louis Post-Dispatch* and is Curator's Professor of English at the University of Missouri-St. Louis. He has been playing the tenor sax for about 20 years.

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